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CITY COUNCIL
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GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 1984

STATEMENT BY ALDERMEN BRIAN HINKLEY, MIKE DAVISON, BRUCE CHARLTON & TOM MURRAY
REGARDING A NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE FOR CITY COUNCIL WHICH ESTABLISHES AN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DURING THIS PAST YEAR THE QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING AN EXECUTIVE BODY FOR CITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN CENTRAL TO THE COUNCIL AGENDA.

IN JANUARY, COUNCIL CONSIDERED A MOTION TO ESTABLISH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BUT THIS WAS DEFEATED BECAUSE OF THE VAGUENESS OF THE PROPOSAL AND THE LACK OF A PUBLIC MANDATE FOR THE COMMITTEE. IN MARCH, COUNCIL NARROWLY REJECTED THE RETURN OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL BECAUSE NO LIMITATION WAS PLACED ON BOARD POWERS WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY LED TO EXCESSES, ABUSES AND HIGH COSTS. IN AUGUST, COUNCIL NARROWLY PASSED A RESOLUTION ASKING THE PROVINCE TO REINSTATE THE BOARD OF CONTROL, WITHOUT A TWO-THIRDS PROVISION FOR COUNCIL TO OVERTURN RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT WITH NO OTHER LIMITATIONS ON THEIR EXCESSIVE POWERS OR SPECIAL PRIVILEGES. HAMILTON HAS PAID TOO HEAVY A PRICE FOR PAST MISTAKES BY PREVIOUS BOARDS OF CONTROL.

THE PROVINCE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING THE ELIMINATION OF THIS ARCHAIC, DIVISIVE AND COSTLY TYPE OF AN EXECUTIVE BODY. THE FEW SURVIVING BOARDS OF CONTROL CLING TO THEIR TENUOUS EXISTENCE IN ONLY THREE TORONTO BOROUGHES AND THE CITY OF LONDON.

A REBORN BOARD OF CONTROL COULD ADD AS MUCH AS AN ADDITIONAL HALF-MILLION DOLLARS TO ALREADY OVERBURDENED PROPERTY TAXPAYERS. IT WILL ADD FOUR EXTRA, UNNECESSARY POLITICIANS TO CITY HALL AND BECAUSE THEY REPLACE FOUR JUNIOR ALDERMEN AT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, IT MEANS ONE-HALF OF OUR WARDS WILL BE DENIED THEIR FULL REPRESENTATION AND COMPLETE SERVICE THEY HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO EXPECT AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL.

WE RESPECT AND ACCEPT COUNCIL'S STATEMENTS OF CONCERN AND THE MAJORITY DESIRE FOR AN EXECUTIVE BODY. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH A MAJOR CHANGE OF STRUCTURE MUST BE WELL CONSIDERED AND FULLY EXAMINED BEFORE IT IS AFFECTED.

WE ARE TODAY UNVEILING AND RECOMMENDING A NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAMILTON. IT WILL ESTABLISH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MAINTAIN STRONG STANDING COMMITTEES AND WITHIN A SYSTEM OF EFFECTIVE CHECKS AND BALANCES IT WILL MORE FULLY INVOLVE EVERY MEMBER OF COUNCIL IN PROVIDING RESPONSIVE, COORDINATED AND COST-EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.


ATTACHED YOU WILL FIND A RESOLUTION FOR COUNCIL, A FACT SHEET AND A BY-LAW WHICH DETAILS OUR PROPOSAL.

BEGINNING NEXT TUESDAY WE WILL KEEP THIS RESOLUTION BEFORE CITY COUNCIL AS A NOTICE OF MOTION UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL IS RECONSIDERED AND DEFEATED. WE WILL THEN MOVE THIS SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION WILL HERALD AN ERA OF VASTLY IMPROVED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND WE RECOMMEND IT TO ALL OF OUR COLLEAGUES ON CITY COUNCIL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT ALDERMAN BRIAN HINKLEY - 526-2730 City Hall

- 545-2258 Home



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MOTION

WHEREAS

WE THE MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL BELIEVE THAT A MAJOR CHANGE IN THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BASED ON THE FULL AND EQUITABLE INVOLVEMENT OF ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS, WILL RESULT IN A MORE CO-OPERATIVE, RESPONSIBLE, EFFICIENT COUNCIL;

AND FURTHER

COUNCIL BELIEVES THAT AN EXECUTIVE BODY, RECEIVING A PUBLIC MANDATE TO PROVIDE A FUNCTION OF CONTROL AND CO-ORDINATION IS REQUIRED WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF CHECKS AND BALANCES;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURE BE ESTABLISHED BY AMENDMENT TO THE PROCEDURAL BY-LAW FOR IMPLEMENTATION AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE INCOMING COUNCIL;

AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COMPOSED OF THE MAYOR AS CHAIRMAN AND FOUR SENIOR ALDERMEN NOMINATED BY THE MAYOR AND ELECTED BY COUNCIL;

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL PERFORM A CO-ORDINATING FUNCTION BY:

- REVIEWING ALL STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS;
- MONITORING AND REPORTING MONTHLY ON ALL CAPITAL PROJECTS AND MATTERS REFERRED BY COUNCIL,
- RECOMMENDING TO COUNCIL THE FIVE YEAR CAPITAL BUDGET,

IN ORDER THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CAN EXERCIZE THESE RESPONSIBILITIES IT MAY PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES TO COMMITTEES' RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH COUNCIL MUST

CONSIDER BEFORE THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION
OR REFER THE ITEM BACK TO THE COMMITTEE ONCE;

CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES SHALL NOT SERVE AS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND NO CHAIRMAN
OF A STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL SERVE AS A VICE-
CHAIRMAN OF A STANDING COMMITTEE;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT NO EXTRA OR SPECIAL REMUNERATION, PRIVILEGES,
OR SERVICES BE PROVIDED TO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE OTHER THAN TWO ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES
AND OCCUPANCY OF THE FORMER BOARD OF CONTROL
OFFICES;

AND FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE
COMMITTEE REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF EIGHT
ADDITIONAL OFFICES FOR THE ALDERMEN BE PROCEEDED
WITH.

FACT SHEET
ON THE
POLITICAL RESTRUCTURING OF CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A body to co-ordinate and overview all City Council projects and matters referred by Council

NOTE: This proposal does NOT:

- Require Provincial approval or amendment to the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth Act;
- Create another level of government within the system;
- Limit the representation from four wards in the City from having full representation on Regional Council;
- Provide for special privileges, perks or undue advantages.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

- Committee reports are reviewed so as to provide a second opinion to ensure recommendations conform with overall City policy objectives;
- Certain executive powers of referral and intervention are provided but does not allow for excessive powers;

PUBLIC MANDATE

- Only senior Aldermen are permitted to serve on the Executive;
- The Mayor who receives a mandate from all the electorate is given the power to nominate a balanced Executive Committee.

COUNCIL'S FULL INVOLVEMENT

- All Council Members will be obliged to accept certain responsibilities as the distribution will be based on the following:

1 Mayor
4 Executive Aldermen
6 Standing Committee Chairmen
6 Standing Committee Vice-Chairmen

Total All 17 Members of Council

The Corporation of the City of Hamilton

BY-LAW NO. 84-

To Amend:

Procedural By-law No. 82-203

Respecting:

AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS Procedural By-law No. 82-203, passed on the 28th day of September, 1982, provides (amongst other things) for Committees of Council;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to establish an Executive Committee - Committee system wherein the government of the municipality of the City of Hamilton by elected members shall be composed of the Mayor, an Executive Committee and Committees of Council established in accordance with the said Procedural By-law.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. The said By-law is amended by adding thereto the following:

PART 11A

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

29b. (1) Subject to subsection 2, there shall be first appointed at the first meeting of the newly elected Council, an Executive Committee:

1st - Executive Committee

(2) The first appointed Executive Committee may be appointed during the period preceding December 1, 1985.

(3) Subsection 30(3), sections 32, 33, 34 and 35 of the said By-law apply, with all necessary changes.

29c. (1) The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Mayor who shall be the Chairperson and four senior Aldermen nominated by the Mayor and elected by Council.

(2) Where an Alderman nominated by the Mayor is not elected by Council, the Mayor may renominate the Alderman or another senior Alderman.

(3) No Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of any other Standing Committee shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

(4) For the purpose of this section, "senior Alderman" means an Alderman in a ward who has received the most votes.

2. Section 30 of the said By-law is amended by adding thereto the following subsection.

(2a) No Chairperson of a Standing Committee shall serve as a Vice-Chairperson of another Standing Committee.

3. The said By-law, is amended by adding after "Standing Committees of Council", the following:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

36a. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

1. To recommend the five year capital budget to Council.
2. To monitor and report monthly on all capital projects and matters referred to it by Council.
3. To review all reports and recommendations of other Standing Committees and Special Committees.
4. To provide alternatives as may be necessary or expedient to recommendations made by other Standing Committees or Special Committees, for consideration for Council.
5. To co-ordinate actions and policies recommended to and by Council.
6. Perform all such duties as may be assigned to it by Council or by other Standing Committees or Special Committees.

4. By-law No. 82-203 is amended by adding the following thereto:

29a. Notwithstanding any other provision of this By-law, where an alternative is provided under Paragraph 4 of section 36a, the Council shall consider the alternative proposed by the Executive Committee prior to the recommendation of the Standing Committee or Special Committee or shall refer the recommendation back to the Standing Committee or Special Committee for consideration.

PASSED this

day of

A.D. 1984.

City Clerk

Mayor



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